making heavy profits on formulations and if so, whether Government would impose restrictions on too many formulations which confuse the farmers users, and also refer the case to the MRTPC/National Consumer Protection Commission?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b) Government have been issuing instructions for and monitoring observance of norms for selling of technical pesticides to non-associated formulators. A meeting was also held recently with the basic manufacturers, formulators and industry associations to discuss the issues (referred to in the news item). All manufacturers have agreed to adhere to the norms as per their licence condition.

(c) No, Sir. We have no information on such profiteering. The question of any restriction on formulations or reference to MRTPC/NCPC does not arise.

27. [*Transferred to the 28th April*, 1989].

Safety of Maruti Gypsy

28. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen recent reports in Sunday Mail of 26th February, 1989 regarding safety of Gypsy and letter of Dr. Dinesh Mohan on the same subject in the Indian Express of 9th March, 1989 and if so, what is Government's response thereto ;

(b) whether Government have verified Maruti Company's claim that Indian version of Maruti Gypsy is different from the U.S. Suzuki Samurai and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is correct that Maruti Gypsy has been tested by VRDE and ARAI under conditions similar to those reported by US consumer Union for the Avoidance Manoeuvre Test and if so, what are the findings?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The comparison between Maruti Gypsy and Suzuki Samurai vehicles is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) Maruti Gypsy has been tested before introduction in the country by ARAI. VRDE has also conducted extensive tests including the manoeuvrability and steerabilit trials of Maruti Gypsy on the dry serpentine course of VRDE trial track with maximum controllable speed. VRDE has concluded that Maruti Gypsy has satisfactory dynamic stability under normal driving conditions.

Statement

	Maruti Gypsy MG 410	Samurai SJ 413
Overall length (mm)	4010	3430
Overall width (mm)	1460	1540
Overall Height (mm)	1910	1165
Wheel base (mm)	2375	2030
Tread front (mm)	1210	1300

	Maruti Gypsy MG 410	Samurai SJ 413
Tread rear (mm)	1220	1310
Ground clearance (mm)	220	205
Curb weight (kg)	915	930
Gross vehicle weight (kg)	1415	1330
Engine capacity (cc)	970	1324
Power	45 Bhp at 5500 rpm	63 Bhp at 6000 rpm
Max. speed (km/hr)	105	130
Minimum turning radius (m)	5.7	5.1

Unfair trade practices by the Pesticides manufacturers

29. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pesticides Formulations Association of India has brought to Government's notice the unwarranted price hikes and unfair trade practices followed by basic manufacturers who are following monopolistic practices as reported in the Economic Times of the 1st April, 1989 and if so, what corrective steps are contemplated in this regard; and

(b) whether such unfair trade practices will be referred for action to MRTPC or National Consumer Protection Commission for *Suo moto* action?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The issues raised by the Pesticides Formulators Association were discussed in a meeting with the basic manufacturers, formulators and representatives of the concerned Associations. The issues were sorted out to the satisfaction of all concerned.

(b) Reference to MRTPC or National Consumer Protection Commission was not considered necessary.

Change in pesticides policy

30. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that new pesticides units are being encouraged and coming up despite Agriculture Ministry's clear policy to switch over gradually to Integrated Pest Management. Biological control and use of indigenous pesticides from plants and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government will reconsider and reformulate their plans and strategies which are geared towards increased production of these highly poisonous chemicals which are a threat to human health?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The policy of Integrated Pest Management, biological control and use of indigenous pesticides from plants will help eliminate the over dependence on pesticides. However, as per views of Ministry of Agriculture, the use of pesticides cannot be dispensed with altogether and their production will have to be continued.